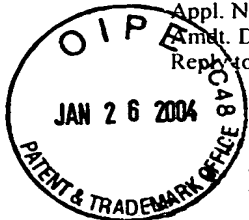


Appl. No. 09/715,069
Amdt. Dated 01/23/2004
Reply to Office action of 10/23/2003



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application. No.: 09/715,069
Applicant : Hermann Kuenzner
Filed : November 20, 2000
TC/A.U. : 2173
Examiner : Kieu D. Vu

Confirmation No. 8872

Docket No. : 951/49289
Customer No. : 23911

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JAN 29 2004

Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This responds to the Office Action mailed on October 23, 2003 in connection with the above-identified patent application. A shortened statutory period for filing a response to the Office Action is set to expire on January 23, 2004. Reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.